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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 09866.3000-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Ronald Keith SLOAN) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)
Application No.: 10/564,555) Examiner: Unassigned
)
Filed: January 13, 2006)
)
For: POKER GAME METHOD AND)
PLAYING AREA)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed foreign and non-patent literature documents are attached.
Copies of the U.S. patent publications are not enclosed.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form. In lieu of a statement of relevance, Applicant submits a copy of an Official Search Report issued by the U.K. Patent Office in corresponding U.K. Patent Application GB0526097.1.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

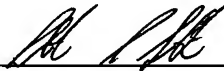
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

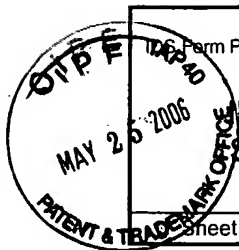
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 25, 2006

By: 
Arthur A. Smith
Reg. No. 56,877



Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/564,555
				Filing Date	January 13, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Ronald Keith SLOAN
				Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	09866.3000-00

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-5,570,885	11-05-1996	Ornstein	
		US-6,164,652	12-26-2000	Lauretta et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 2005/072835 A1	08-11-2005	WPT Enterprises, Inc.		No

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		U.K. Search Report for Application No. GB0526097.1, dated March 31, 2006.	
		MIKE SEXTON, "The World Poker Tour 'Action Clock,'" from "Card Player Magazine," Friday, January 30, 2004, Vol. 17, No. 3, URL: www.cardplayer.com/poker_magazine/archives/?a_id=13784 .	
		HOWARD LEDERER, "Re: 'Action Clock' on WPT," from "Poker Guy! Poker Forum," URL: www.pokerguy.co.uk/forum/printthread.php?t=24901&pp=10 .	
		"World Tour Poker," from "Business Wire," June 2, 2004, URL: http://www.findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m0EIN/is_2004_Feb_6/ai_112977398 .	
		DAVE COLCLOUGH, "World Speed Championship in Estonia," from "The Poker Game Pro's Teach You To Play," October 25, 2004, URL: www.poker-game-pros.com/World_Speed_Championship_in_Estonia.html .	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.